## Founded in 1954 AMERICAN COLLEGE of SPORTS MEDICINE

Mission Statement: The American College of Sports Medicine advances and integrates scientific research to provide educational and practical applications of exercise science and sports medicine.

April 8, 2013

The Honorable Mark Hass Chair, Education and Workforce Development Committee Oregon Senate 900 Court St NE, S-207 Salem, OR 97301

Re. Support for SB818

Dear Senator Haas:

On behalf of the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), I am pleased to write you in strong support of Senate Bill 818 to address policies regarding cardiac injuries in youth athletics. This legislation will help foster best practices regarding education about and emergency action in response to incidents of commotio cordis affecting student athletes. Passage of SB818 would show Oregon's clear commitment to address this critically important health issue.

We are pleased this bill will help educate young athletes, their parents and coaches about the risks of cardiac arrhythmia. It will further require emergency action plans to be in place, and the presence of someone who is knowledgeable about the plan to be present at each event or practice involving a high-risk sport. The required reporting of related incidents will contribute to our collective understanding of ways to enhance the health and safety of youth athletes.

The members of ACSM share a commitment to improve health through science, education and medicine. Founded in 1954, ACSM is the professional home for thousands of clinical physicians, educators and researchers. We are the largest organization in the world dedicated to sports medicine and exercise science, representing more than 50,000 members and certified professionals from a variety of medical specialties, allied health and scientific disciplines.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues in the Oregon State Legislature to advance and enact this important legislation. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Monte Ward, vice president for government affairs, at (202) 236-9079 or mward@acsm.org.

Respectfully,

James R. Whitehead Executive Vice President/CEO

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International Team Physician Course December 3-5, 2010 Dhaka, Bangladesh

Advanced Team Physician Course December 9-12, 2010 Washington, DC

ACSM Team Physician<sub>SM</sub> Course, Part II February 9-13, 2011 San Diego, California

> ACSM's 15th Health & Fitness Summit & Exposition April 13-16, 2011 Anaheim, California

ACSM's 58th Annual Meeting and 2nd World Congress on Exercise is Medicine May 31-June 4, 2011 Denver, Colorado



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